

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. By this amendment, claims 1, 16 and 18-20 are amended and claim 2 is canceled.

Applicants thank Examiner Chen for the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative, David Zibelli, during the September 6, 2006 interview. The substance of the interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-20 under 35 USC 102 over Carteau (US Pat. 5,325,488). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed at the interview, Carteau does not disclose "said first one of said paths has no overlap with said second one of said paths", as recited in claim 1, or "said first path has no overlap with said second path or said third path", as recited in claim 16. Examiner Chen agreed that Carteau does not appear to disclose this feature, subject to further consideration and/or search. No other claims or prior art were discussed during the interview, although the Examiner was provided with a copy of the proposed claim amendments, which are identical to those presented herein.

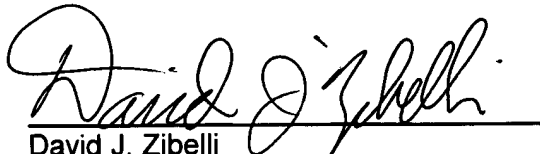
For the above reasons, it is submitted that claim 1 and 16, and all claims dependent therefrom, are not anticipated by Carteau. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

For the above reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance are solicited.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this matter, he is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at 202/220-4334.

Respectfully submitted,


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